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Letter dated 14 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 25 October 2000, I have the honour to draw your attention to new massive violations of the Flight Information Region (FIR) of Nicosia and the National Airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 23 and 31 October as well as on 7 and 8, 10 to 17, 21 to 24 and 29 and 30 November 2000.

On 23 October, one (1) F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction.

On 31 October, one (1) C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The C-160 aircraft returned later on the same day (31 October) and entered once again the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 7 November, ten (10) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 8 November, one (1) C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The C-130 aircraft returned later on the same day (8 November) and entered once again the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

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On 10 November, one (1) C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 11 November, one (1) CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 12 November, two (2) C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 13 November, two (2) F-16, two (2) RF-4, and one (1) CN-235 Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia and Mesaoria, as follows:

(a) Two (2) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Varosha, Mesaoria, the occupied area of Nicosia, Morfou and Kyrenia before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) Two (2) RF-4 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Morfou, Krini, Lefkoniko and Kyrenia before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(c) One (1) CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 14 November, ten (10) NF-5, four (4) F-16, two (2) F-4, one (1) C-130, one (1) C-160, one (1) CN-235 and one (1) Gulf Stream, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Mesaoria, as follows:

(a) Ten (10) NF-5 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Kyrenia, before landing in the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic;

(b) Four (4) F-16 and two (2) F-4 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Lefkoniko, Tymbou, and Krini before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(c) One (1) C-130 and one (1) C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(d) One (1) CN-235 and one (1) Gulf Stream violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The CN-235 returned afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 15 November, three (3) F-16, five (5) F-4, and two (2) UH-60, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia, Karpasia and Mesaoria, as follows:

(a) Three (3) F-16 and five (5) F-4 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, Lefkoniko, Tymbou and Krini before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) Two (2) UH-60 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic.

On the same day (15 November), seven (7) NF-5 took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, in the occupied area of the Republic and flew over the area of Kyrenia.

On 16 November, ten (10) NF-5, one (1) C-130 and one (1) C-160, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Mesaoria, as follows:

(a) Ten (10) NF-5 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, taking off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, in the occupied area of the Republic, and returned to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) One (1) C-130 and one (1) C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the areas of Mesaoria and Kyrenia, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 17 November, two (2) F-4, two (2) RF-4, one (1) F-4, one (1) CN-235 and one (1) C-160, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia, Cape of Apostolos Andreas and Mesaoria, as follows:

(a) Two (2) F-4 and two (2) RF-4 during their flight around the coast of the Republic of Cyprus, violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Cape of Apostolos Andreas, before returning to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) One (1) F-4 entered the Nicosia FIR from a south-easterly direction, violating international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Cape of Apostolos Andreas before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(c) One (1) C-160 and one (1) CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning later to the FIR of Ankara.

On 21 November, two (2) RF-4 and four (4) F-16, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Kyrenia, Morfou and Mesaoria, as follows:

(a) Two (2) RF-4 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Morfou, Tymbou, Krini and Lefkoniko before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) Four (4) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Cape of Apostolos Andreas, Varosha, Krini and Lefkoniko before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 22 November, eight (8) F-16, one (1) F-4, two (2) C-130, one (1) C-160 and two (2) CN-235, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Kyrenia, Mesaoria and Morfou, as follows:

(a) Two (2) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia and Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic;

(b) Four (4) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Kyrenia, Mesaoria and Morfou and fired at mock targets in the areas of Gerolakos and Kyra before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(c) Two (2) F-16 entered the Nicosia FIR violating international air traffic regulations and escorted the above two F-16 after their military manoeuvres, flying towards the FIR of Ankara;

(d) One (1) C-130, one (1) C-160 and two (2) CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Kyrenia and Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. All but one (1) CN-235 Turkish military aircraft returned afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(e) One (1) F-14 and one (1) C-130 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. One (1) C-130 returned afterwards from the same direction.

On 23 November, twenty-four (24) F-16, one (1) C-130, one (1) CN-235 and one (1) Gulf Stream, all Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia, Kyrenia, Mesaoria and Morfou, as follows:

(a) Twenty-two (22) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, Kyrenia, Mesaoria and Morfou and being part of the illegal military manoeuvres code-named "Taurus", the Turkish military aircraft bombed mock targets in the areas of Kormakitis and Kythrea before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) Two (2) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, taking off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko and flying towards the FIR of Ankara;

(c) One (1) C-130 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(d) One (1) Gulf Stream (C-650) violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(e) One (1) CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, taking off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko and flying towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 24 November, two (2) Turkish military aircraft C-130 and one (1) CN-235 entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) Two (2) C-130 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) One (1) CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On the same day, 24 November, two (2) UH-60 Turkish military aircraft which were stationed at the illegal airport of Tymbou since 15 November, violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, taking off from the said airport and flying towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 29 November, two (2) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 30 November, four (4) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest the above actions, which violate international law, as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their cessation. The Turkish Government should abide by the Charter of the United Nations, respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and stop this menacing, provocative action. I would also like to express the hope that the necessary positive attitude will be shown by Turkey, so that the forthcoming round of proximity talks, as well as all efforts for finding a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions, will not be adversely affected.

I shall be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotos **Zackheos**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative